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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1916.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.

By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

A SAVING GRACE.

Whatever your cause, be honest in it—
In active deed, in speech, or print;
And even if you're wrong there'll be
Some laurel for your honesty.

(Copyright, 1914.)

The British navy keeps a million persons busy without counting those in Berlin.

Loud laughter is not called for by Mr. La Follette's announcement that he is a candidate for President. There are others.

The theory is now being advanced that the Panama Canal has made two fleets necessary because it is easier for them to get from coast to coast.

At different periods of a single day four mayors were in charge of the affairs of the city of Memphis, Tenn. The town is apparently out for Mexico's record.

Is it because reports of casualties in Germany are so common that so little space is given to the story of Ambassador Gerard breaking his collarbone while skiing?

Great Britain is to have a new cabinet minister to direct the blockade of Germany. It may almost be said now that John Bull has taken off his waistcoat and rolled up his shirt sleeves.

The fact that the Zeppelin brought down in France was flying at a height of 6,000 feet would indicate the British have something to learn from their allies about anti-aircraft guns.

The members of the Republican Congressional Committee appear to be giving a mild exhibition of internal strife for which their Democratic rivals long ago achieved fame, and just at the time when the watchwords should be "get together."

According to the British authorities, Ignatius T. Trebitsch Lincoln, the so-called German spy, who escaped and was recaptured in New York, is handing himself a bouquet and trying to make himself appear respectable by calling himself a spy.

"Although the United States is a prosperous nation, we are not a prosperous people," asserts the president of the American Society for Thrift. And yet the Treasury just now is hard put to it to collect enough money from the people to support the government.

Seven joy riders in a stolen automobile amused themselves by dashing about the streets on Tuesday night and turning in false alarms of fire. There should be little difficulty in capturing them and they will be entitled to no sympathy if they are punished to the full extent of the law.

Fifty students of Depauw University have been suspended for a week for attending a ball given during the mid-term recess, thus violating the college rule against dancing. Applying the old Massachusetts blue laws to Hoosier college youths of the twentieth century must be regarded as an example of rather rapid progression.

"I have said frequently and I will venture to say again, that while I am far from thinking that all the wisdom died with our forefathers, I am perfectly certain that all the wisdom was not born yesterday," declared Senator Lodge in a Washington's Birthday address. But think of the superiority of the present-day brand.

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Clements is opposed to government ownership of railroads because he does not think "it is the American idea to put the railroads, organized labor, etc., into politics, which government ownership would do." But it can hardly be claimed that the "American idea" has been given much consideration of late.

Not a handful of members remained in Senate or House to listen to the reading of Washington's Farewell Address on Tuesday. This ceremony annually performed to empty benches in Congress is not inspiring to the country, and it would appear that the time has arrived when another method of celebrating the birthday of the Father of His Country in the Capitol should be adopted.

President Hibben, of Princeton University, who recently returned from an extended Western trip, says: "Through all the sections of the country which I visited I was confronted with genuine enthusiasm for military preparedness. The people of these sections may not have decided in their own minds what actual form this preparedness should take, but their support of it is wholly as enthusiastic as in any section of the East." Some members of Congress had better change their sources of information concerning the sentiment of the people if they like the Washington climate.

Congress Headed Toward Danger.

That members of President Wilson's own party in Congress are striving to wrest from him in a crisis direction and control of the country's international relations is the amazing news sent to the people from Washington last night. They are told that their representatives in Congress are making a determined effort to sweep away whatever results the President and his Cabinet have achieved in a year of endeavor—to preserve the freedom of the seas, and to surrender the last shred of American rights by warning Americans not to take passage on merchant ships, lawfully armed for defense, which Germany threatens to sink on sight and without warning; that their representatives in Congress are determined to repudiate the rights of Americans, bound on peaceful errands, to sail the seas safe from murderous attack, and to sacrifice all of those things for which the President contended in the communications on the destruction of the Lusitania. If the situation is accurately described the President's party has grown pitifully weak as he has grown strong in his foreign policy.

Though it is difficult to imagine a graver prospect of national humiliation, even of national disaster, it is not yet time to believe that it will be brought about. President Wilson, to whose Americanism, growing sturdier, the country has responded, will neither yield nor compromise his principles for the sake of office, and there is scarcely room for doubt that he will find Republican support if it is necessary to prevent the striking of the American flag to Germany and Austria. For that is all a warning by Congress to Americans to keep off legally armed merchantmen would amount to. It would save no lives. Every American contemplating an ocean voyage is as well able to estimate the danger as those Democrats who would urge them to regulate their going and coming by the Teutonic will. They will not refrain from taking voyage because their country casts them off and refuses to demand money if they are murdered. Action by Congress in opposition to the President would be a mere notice to Germany and Austria that while we are at peace we are not united and must even quarrel over the adjustment of our own affairs as they are involved in the war of other nations.

It is difficult to understand the motive which actuates those members of Congress who would wipe out international law and bow their acceptance of the Teutonic proclamation of piracy. It may be interpreted as cowardice, as the effect of the deadly influence of the advocates of peace at any price, or as a pandering to the German vote. Among the apostles of surrender are men who have praised the President for keeping the country out of the war, and these betray themselves as having praised him for the concessions he has made. Now that he realizes that the national honor will permit no more concessions, now that he forbids further encroachment upon our freedom and our rights they would take the power from his hands and themselves yield all.

Those who would sacrifice everything, in their fear that the President may carry the country into war with Germany have far greater reason to tremble because of their own course. They are doing much to earn Teutonic contempt and encourage its aggression. If the President was winning yesterday in his controversy his progress will be halted today by the servility to Germany and Austria of the members of his own party. For those rare occasions on which Berlin has shown a half-willingness to listen to the voice of simple justice and reason have been in response to exhibitions of firmness by the White House and State Department.

The plans of those unpatriotic members must not succeed. Success would mean notice to Germany that she may do her whole will with us, that in the whole Eastern Hemisphere we would be without friends and without respect.

A Startling Assertion.

Promoters of fresh air funds, societies whose mission it is to provide country vacations for poor children of the city schools and other admirable organizations with similar purposes will gasp at the assertion made yesterday by Prof. Thomas B. Wood, of Columbia University, New York, at the forty-sixth annual meeting of the National Educational Association at Detroit. For Prof. Wood upset a cherished and time honored theory when he insisted that school children of the city slums are healthier as a rule than those who attend rural schools, and urged that school authorities in the country districts devote more attention and money to the physical welfare of school children. It has long been recognized, of course, that sanitation in the cities generally had reached a point much nearer perfection than in the country, but to be told by such an eminent authority that even the children of the city slums are healthier than their brothers and sisters who live as close as possible to nature, is somewhat startling. We suspect, however, that until further light is shed on the foundation of Prof. Wood's assertion our city philanthropists will continue to gather up the small boys and girls from their healthful slum environment and banish them to the farms, meadows and orchards there to be exposed, helpless, to the germs and contagion there abiding.

The Teuton's Tottling Credit.

Imperial German five per cent bonds are now offered at the equivalent of 80 cents on the dollar by a banking house in this city, which has been active in attempting to dispose of the various Teutonic issues.

It offers the Austrian five and a half per cent at the equivalent of 62 cents on the dollar. That is to say the German bond of 1,000 marks is offered at \$100, as against an asking price of \$203 a short time ago, and the Austrian bonds of 1,000 crowns is offered at \$125.

The banking house in question contends that the continual reductions in the price at which it offers German, Austrian and Hungarian issues is due solely to the record-breaking depression in the rates of exchange on those countries.

As a matter of fact, the phenomenal depression in the exchanges and the unheard of depreciation in the securities of the Teutonic governments reflect the exhaustion of their credit and the world's estimate of what their financial condition will be after they are defeated.—New York Herald.

"Beating People Down."

By JOHN D. BARRY.

Several years ago in New York City I went to a dinner party where there were several guests known for their wit. I expected to have a fine evening. Most of the guests were fairly well acquainted and quickly showed that they felt at ease. Among them was a woman known for her wealth, a social authority. A few moments after the dinner began there was general talk. Then a subject was introduced which greatly excited the social authority. She leaned forward in her seat and at once took possession of the talk. Those who disagreed with her she silenced by her frank expressions of resentment and of conviction that she was in the right. Quickly she reduced that table to subjection. During the rest of the meal she did most of the talking. Whenever a subject came up that interested her she would utter a pronouncement which made further discussion impossible.

Occasionally I would catch very subtle glances, not exactly exchanges of glance, but veiled looks, which told me that this woman was doing exactly what she had often done before.

But the woman had no suspicion. She went on excitedly, taking great pleasure in telling us what we ought to believe.

An old-fashioned expression I often used to hear as a boy is, "Beating people down." There was a man who used to come to our house, and as soon as he left someone would be sure to say something like, "What an unpleasant habit he has of beating people down."

To this day I think of the expression whenever I meet anyone who, for the sake of establishing his opinions, undertakes to beat people down because they venture to express their opinions.

It must be admitted that those who "beat people down" add to the interest and excitement of life. Where they dwell there is no dullness, no monotony. Their fondness for strongly expressing opinions sometimes gives them the reputation of being strong characters. If self-assertion is an expression of strength, they surely are strong. But there are those who believe that the higher proof of strength is to be found, not in self-assertion, but in self-control. In this quality those who beat others down are woefully lacking. They strive to control others, never themselves. And they seldom stop to consider that the stronger their control of others becomes the weaker their self-control is sure to be.

Those who beat others down must look upon life as a kind of arena. To them each day brings its conflict. Wherever they go they find themselves involved in argument and antagonism. For, naturally, they are continually meeting people whose opinions do not jibe with their own and whose feelings, by being so ruthlessly assaulted, are severely damaged. In many cases these people, on finding themselves beaten down, become exceedingly resentful. And resentment in turn creates in the mind of the assailants further resentment. So it is not surprising that natures continually trying to beat down other natures often involve themselves in serious complications, sometimes ending in disaster.

When we know well those who like to beat others down we have a certain protection. We become careful. If we love peace, we hold back those opinions that are likely to create a disturbance. On the other hand, however, we can never be perfectly secure, for we can never be certain just how far we can go or just which subjects are to be avoided. With some people there is never safety. The mere mention on our part of a name may excite wrath, for among those who habitually beat down others, the names of people become associated with opinions that have to be immediately annihilated.

Perhaps the greatest harm done by the habit of "beating people down" is that among peace-lovers and the timid it tends to encourage deceit. Rather than get into trouble there are many who will go so far as to deny some of their most cherished views. There is still a larger class who, while holding to their opinions, will resort to insidious methods to escape from exposing themselves to rebuke.

In either case the consequences are deplorable, destroying that spirit of frankness and of good fellowship and of trust so essential to wholesome and happy social relations.

Incidentally, the habit of "beating people down" damages the quality of talk.

It also tends to silence many of those whose opinions may be most valuable.

We have all had the experience of being in groups, where the most interesting people were given no chance, where the talk was controlled by those who mainly echoed, and rattled and noisily asserted. For, almost invariably, those who have the best things to say, the result of quiet observations and thinkings, are the slowest to push themselves forward, the readiest to yield. They never indulge in "beating people down."

Inhumanity.

The suffragist plan to bombard hostile Congressmen with poems outdoes all previous manifestations of woman's inhumanity to man.—New York Sun.

Republican Opportunity.

Mr. Root has offered to the Republicans the opportunity of becoming once again the party of aggressive and enlightened nationalism, at least in foreign affairs. Democracy under Mr. Wilson stands for nothing at all except a foreign policy of neutral isolation and a domestic policy of subordinating administration to politics. The President's solicitude has been exercised on behalf of party harmony rather than party integrity.—The New Republic.

Silly Chatter.

Will any of the pacifists say in so many words that the President is acting as the tool or agent of the munition makers? They insinuate it, but they are too cowardly to say it. If the President is not hired by the munition makers to urge preparedness, we presume that several other persons may be excused. The pretense that there is no need of an efficient army and navy, and only the munition makers pretend there is, is childish, imbecile and cowardly, and the men and women who chatter it know that they are saying what is not only false, but silly.—Philadelphia Record.

OUR PRESIDENT
A History of the American People
BY WOODROW WILSON

The Victorious Monitor.

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The Draft Act meant that Congress realized at last the magnitude and the almost desperate difficulty of the war it had embarked upon.

In carrying it into execution the government learned something more of the temper of the people. Intense excitement everywhere accompanied the progress of the conscription.

In some places it was forcibly resisted. So much because of the deep unpopularity of the thing itself as because it seemed to be enforced with gross partisan partiality. Democratic counties, it began in some parts of the country to appear, were much more heavily drafted than those whose votes had been cast in the elections of the party in power.

The excitement culminated more sharply and ominously in New York than anywhere else; and in the city of New York very serious outbreaks occurred—savage "draft riots" which were to linger like an ugly nightmare.

For four whole days of that memorable summer (July 12-15, 1862) the town was practically at the mercy of mobs which surged in its streets almost at will and defied the government to put the obnoxious act into execution.

It was executed, none the less, in the end. Inequality, upon its enforcement as between locality and locality were corrected, but its essential rigor was not abated.

If the war was to be successfully prosecuted, there must be increased, as Congress and the President saw, not only vast armies, but also huge fleets to close the southern ports.

When Mr. Lincoln proclaimed the southern ports blockaded in April, 1861, there were but forty-two vessels of war in commission.

The southern coasts were full three thousand miles long.

So early as August, 1861, Fort Hatteras, in North Carolina, had been taken by a federal force, and early in November Port Royal, South Carolina; Fort Monroe, within the capture of the Chesapeake, remained in possession of the Union.

The low, flat body of his Monitor rose but a foot or two above the level of the water. She carried her battery within an iron martello tower so constructed as to revolve, as if upon a pivot, so that her fire might be delivered in any direction.

On the 9th of March the two novel craft made trial of each other, and the Virginia was worsted. Her shot made no impression on the turret in which the Monitor carried her guns or on the iron-sheathed deck about it, and the low iron hull of her antagonist afforded no target.

Tomorrow: A Turn in the Tide.

Woodrow Wilson

Latest and Most Complete News of Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

By E. B. JOHNS.

There will be no objections from the War Department to an investigation of the aviation service as provided for in the Robinson resolution which has been reported out of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. A sincere desire was expressed at the department yesterday that the resolution be passed promptly by the House and the investigation inaugurated immediately.

Before Mr. Garrison resigned as Secretary of War, he had appointed a board of investigation of the aviation service. The board, headed by Brig. Gen. M. M. Macomb, president of the War College, Inspector General E. A. Garlington, and Adjutant Gen. McCain to do the very thing which the Robinson resolution had been delayed somewhat owing to the resignation of the Secretary and the great demand that Congress make a general attack upon the War Department for reports on the different features of the bills pending before the military committees.

The only objection to the Robinson resolution is the inference that the aviation section of the Signal Corps is inefficient. The trouble in the section which is confined almost entirely to the San Diego school is largely of a personal nature. As far as can be learned it has grown out of the controversy over the different types of machines. This controversy has been carried to such an extreme that the Secretary of War reached a conclusion that the whole matter should be gone into with the view of some disciplinary measures.

The matter came to the attention of the former Secretary of War in reviewing the proceedings of the court-martial of Lieut. Col. E. Goodier, adjutant general of the Western Department. In his testimony Col. Goodier made some charges against Col. Reber and Capt. Cowan. He also made charges against the officers and men on duty at the San Diego school. The trouble really started with First Lieut. Lewis E. Goodier, Jr., was on duty at the San Diego school and brought some charges against Capt. Cowan.

No committee that has visited the Navy Department recently has attracted quite as much attention as one of which Paderewski, the great Polish pianist, is chairman. The committee of the Navy save Paderewski and the Polish Relief Committee an hour's interview yesterday, during which every officer and clerk on duty in that part of the Navy Department made an excuse to pass through the secretary's office.

"Paderewski may have a finer and more artistic mass of hair than any of the sacrilegious clerks," but Senator Vardaman has a more warlike decoration upon his thought dome.

Within two months three new battleships will be turned over to the government. They are the Nevada, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. It is expected that the Oklahoma will be formally accepted by the Navy Department about March 15, and the Nevada a few days later. At the present rate of progress the Pennsylvania will be ready for service not later than April 15. They will probably be the most formidable addition to the navy that has ever been made within such a short time.

The Pennsylvania is the largest, having a tonnage of 31,400 or 4,000 tons larger than the Oklahoma. They are all oil burners and fully up to the standard of efficiency of any navy in the world. The Pennsylvania has been especially fortunate in her tests, while there have been vexing delays with both the Oklahoma and the Nevada.

Army officers reporting at the War Department yesterday were Lieut. Col.

SEEN AND HEARD BY GEORGE MINER

Special Correspondent of The Washington Herald.

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New York, Feb. 23.—This is the time you must go to Palm Beach or Atlantic City. To keep your credit good. Palm Beach is the swell bet. Lots of people say they are going there.

Some do. They have bank accounts. That need pruning. Others say they do and retire to a boarding house in Yonkers. Or some unfrequented similar place. That's the first cousin. To a flag station. Where you're not likely to meet anybody.

Except the hicks. Atlantic City hasn't any palms. Only paper ones in the lobbies. But they know how to trim you. And drop it in himself. You go there for change. And rest.

And waiters get the change. And the hotels get the rest. They have much tipping an art. The old time Paris work. Was a piker play in comparison. There are sixteen different people. To tip daily. The more people they supply you to tip.

The more expensive the hotel. Only cheap hotels. Have eight takers. Some of the swell ones. Run up to twenty-two. For instance.

One man escorts you to the elevator. Another man opens the elevator door. And watches you step in. The elevator boy takes you up. Another boy meets you at your floor. And walks ahead of you to your room. Four tips each time you go up. Or come down.

It takes three porters. To get your grip. From your room to a cab. In addition to the day and night chambermaids.

And valet. And floor waiter. Whose mission in life is to forever be bringing ice water. There is the floor captain. Who never does anything for you. Except to stick his head in the door. And ask if everything is all right. And dodges out again.

Board to Have Six Additions.

The membership committee of the Washington Board of Trade yesterday held a regular business session at lunch-table in the Commercial Club. Several applications for admittance to the board will be reported to the executive committee for final action. Charles F. Crane, chairman of the committee, presided, more than a dozen members being present.

ORDERS TO OFFICERS.

Assistant Surgeon C. I. Wood, detailed to Maryland.

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A boy leads you to the mail box. And a porter there. Snatches it away from you. And drops it in himself. I think they hire somebody. To invent useless jobs. In the Traymore lounge. There is a big aquarium. With goldfish in it. And the manager has trained. One of the goldfish. So he will eat out of his hand. And when the manager. Has been educating this goldfish. Since it was a child. And some day. He hopes to teach it to sing. There are thirteen miles of boardwalk. And I know why. Because it's too long to walk. And you have to hire wheel chairs. To get anywhere. For every place you want to go. Is always at the other end. Most people like to be bumped around in a wheel chair. But they can't help themselves. Because it makes another way to spend money. And give tips.

The only thing you don't tip at Atlantic City. Is the ocean breeze. Everything else there is arranged. To keep money from getting out. For they seem to think. That your money doesn't improve with age.

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